

2014 OLYMPIANS

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the Vermonters who will be representing the United States in the Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia. Vermont has a long tradition of excellence in winter sports that we owe partly to our State's cold climate and mountainous terrain, but also to an outdoor spirit that dates back generations. I would like to acknowledge these athletes individually and wish them the best of luck in pursuing the gold.

Sophie Caldwell, from Peru, VT, will be competing for the United States in cross-country skiing. Sophie was a five-time All-American at Dartmouth College, and received a degree in psychology and plans to go back to school to pursue a career in either psychology or education.

Hannah Dreissigacker, from Morrisville, VT, is a member of the Craftsbury Green Racing Project, a group of elite athletes who are committed to pursuing an environmentally conscious lifestyle. Hannah will be competing in the biathlon in Sochi.

Kelly Clark, from West Dover, VT, is one of the most successful snowboarders to ever compete. She won a gold medal in the halfpipe event at the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, and a bronze medal at the 2010 games in Vancouver. In addition to her success on the slopes, Kelly has given back to her community by starting a foundation that provides scholarships to athletes from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Susan Dunklee, from Craftsbury, VT, will be competing for the United States in the biathlon. Susan placed fifth in the World Championship's Individual race in Ruhpolding, Germany, and tied for the best score of those U.S. female biathletes competing. Susan, like Ms. Dreissigacker, is also a member of the Craftsbury Green Racing Project, which promotes sustainability and endurance sports.

Lindsey Jacobellis, from Stratton, VT, started competing in snowboard cross competitions when she was 11 and has risen to become a dominant force in the sport. Lindsay won a silver medal at the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin, and is an eight-time champion in snowboardcross at the Winter X Games.

Hannah Kearney, from Norwich, VT, is one of the top freestyle mogul competitors in the world, having won a gold medal at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver. I wish her the best of luck in defending her Olympic title.

Devin Logan, from West Dover, VT, is a freeskiier who will be competing in the slopestyle and halfpipe events. During her rookie season, she finished second in the halfpipe event at the U.S. Championships and earned her first U.S. halfpipe skiing title at the age of 15.

Andy Newell, from Shaftsbury, VT, is a cross-country skier who has been racing since the age of five. He placed 16th

in freestyle sprint during the 2006 Winter Olympics and finished off the 2012–2013 season ranked as the fifth fastest sprinter in the world. Outside of training for this year's Winter Olympics, Andy works with kids at the New England Nordic Ski Association to introduce the sport to a new audience.

Hannah Teter, from Belmont, VT, won a gold medal in the halfpipe event at the 2006 Winter Olympics and a silver medal in 2010 in Vancouver. In true Vermont fashion, Hannah is very active in her community and charitable causes, combining her prize money with proceeds from maple syrup sales to start a charity called "Hannah's Gold" which builds schools and fresh water infrastructure in a village in rural Kenya.

Ida Sargent, from Barton, VT, is a cross-country skier who is also a member of the Craftsbury Green Racing Project. After finishing her cross-country skiing career, Ida hopes to become a physical therapist.

Liz Stephen, from East Montpelier, VT, switched from alpine to cross-country skiing midway through her tenure at Burke Mountain Academy. Liz took first place in two events at the 2008 U.S. National Championships. Since her last trip to the Winter Olympics in 2010, she finished atop the podium at the Swiss National Championship in 2012 and finished fifth in the 10k freestyle at the 2013 World Ski Championships. Liz enjoys mountain biking and takes classes at Westminster College.

Mikaela Shiffrin, from East Burke, VT, will compete for the United States in alpine skiing. Mikaela is an eight-time World Cup slalom medalist. Mikaela is the first non-European to win four World Cup slalom races in one season. When she isn't competing, she also enjoys playing tennis and soccer.

Ty Walker, from Stowe, VT, has made a significant impact on women's slopestyle snowboarding. Ty has won the Burton European Open Junior Jam three times in a row from 2009–2011. In 2013, when she was just 16, she finished fifth at the FIS World Snowboarding Championship. Off the snow, Ty is a straight-A student and loves to jump on trampolines.

Alex Deibold, from Manchester, VT, will compete in his first Olympics as a snowboardcross competitor. Alex finished second in the 2013 World Cup championship in Sochi, Russia. Alex also made finals at four out of five World Cup starts in 2013. When he is off the slopes, Alex enjoys rock climbing, surfing, and mountain biking.

Jacqueline Hernandez, from Londonderry, VT will compete for the United States in snowboardcross. Jacqueline is a seven-time World Cup top-10 finisher. In her spare time, she enjoys riding motorcycles, swimming, and boating.

Nolan Kasper, from Warren, VT, will compete for the United States in alpine skiing. Nolan competed in the 2010 Winter Olympic Games and placed 24th in men's slalom. In addition, Nolan enjoys ice skating and playing soccer.

Mr. President, Vermont is very proud of the athletes who will be competing in Sochi, and I would like to join the citizens of my state to wish them the best of luck at the 2014 Olympic Winter Games. Bring home the gold!

OLYMPIANS

Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, I join with citizens across the Granite State in saying "good luck" to the outstanding New Hampshire athletes who will be among those representing the United States in the 2014 Winter Olympic Games in Sochi, Russia, which begin this week. It is an impressive group that brings great pride to our State.

Nick Alexander of Lebanon is competing in ski jumping. After his impressive performance at the Continental Cup Competitions, we look forward to seeing him soar through the air in Sochi.

At age 18, Center Conway native Sean Doherty is the youngest member of the 2014 U.S. Olympic biathlon team.

Nick Fairall of New London grew up enjoying skiing, lacrosse, soccer and many other sports, but his true passion is ski jumping. This year we will get to watch him jump for the gold in Sochi.

Andover's Kris Freeman is a veteran Olympian having competed in the 2002, 2006 and 2010 Winter Olympics. This year, we will cheer him on again as he competes in the cross-country skiing event.

Competing in slopestyle snowboarding is 2012 world champion Chas Guldmond from Laconia. This will be his first time competing on the Olympic stage.

Sixteen-year-old Hanover native Julia Krass grew up skiing at the recently reopened Whaleback Mountain in Enfield. We wish her the best of luck as she competes in Sochi's inaugural slopestyle skiing event, the newest kind of freestyle skiing.

World renowned alpine skier Bode Miller of Franconia will be competing in his fifth Winter Olympic Games the sixth American athlete to do so. This year, the decorated Olympian will go for his sixth alpine skiing Olympic medal.

North Conway resident Leanne Smith, who competed in the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver, is returning to the Olympics to compete in several alpine skiing events, including downhill, slalom, giant slalom, super G, and super combined.

The University of New Hampshire's head hockey coach, Katey Stone, will make history in Sochi as the first woman to lead a U.S. Olympic hockey team. We will be rooting for her to lead her players to victory.

D.J. Montigny, who grew up in Dover, will coach three U.S. athletes in women's slopestyle skiing. Good luck to D.J. as he advises members of Team USA before they head down the slopes to compete.

Additionally, several athletes from around the U.S. who have been educated and trained in New Hampshire